Installation of Super Computer

3308. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Super Computer worth Rs. 400 crores was imported from U.S.A. during 1987-88 and was installed in Indian Meteorological Department at Lodhi Road, New Delhi for Long Range weather forecasting but it has never been used so far; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make up the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) & (b) A Super Computer Cray X-MP/14 was imported at a cost of Rs. 12.40 crores during October, 1988 from M/s. Cray Research Inc., USA by the Department of Science and Technology for National Centre for Medium Range weather forecasting and was installed at India Meteorological Department Campus, Lodhi Road, New Delhi for development of numerical weather prediction techniques for medium range (3—10 days in advance) weather forecasting. It has been operational since end of March, 1989. It is also being used for crop-weather modelling studies by the India Meteorological Department and institutions like Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology. For these scientific applications the Indian scientists have been using the Super Computer independently.

Hand held Phone working through Satellites

@3309. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has bagged a contract for an international study on the feasibility of a system of hand held phone worked through a system of low earth orbiting satellites;

(b) if so, whether the contract was awarded by the International maritime Satellites Organisation;

(c) whether several countries have also shown positive interest in making use of remote sensing capabilities of Indian satellites; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) A number of Countries/Organisations have been approached about the possible utilisation of the Remote Sensing data from the Indian Remote Sensing Satellites. Some of them are—National Remote Sensing Centre, United Kingdom; Iranian Remote Sensing Centre, Iran; National University of Singapore; Swedish Space Corporation; SPOT Image EOSAT etc. The proposals are under discussion.

Nation-wide Project on landuse/land cover mapping

3310. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Space is carrying out, for Planning Commission, a nation-wide project on landuse/land cover mapping to operational plans for various agroclimatic zones; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI: (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the instance of Planning Commission, Department of Space has carried out a National Project on landuse/land cover mapping for the entire country on 1:250,000 scale using Indian Remote Sensing Satellite data. These maps prepared district-wise, provide information on agricultural areas, wastelands, forest cover, surface water bodies etc. Statistics for the various landuse/land cover categories have also been generated. The maps for 439 districts of the country have been completed and the same have been provided to planning Commission.

Launch of Satellite INSAT-2B

3311. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item in the Hindustan Times, dated 24th July, 1993 that according to Kazakh Deputy Prime Minister, G. A. Abilsyitov, launching of INSAT-2B satellite could have cost less, if facilities provided at Baikanour, Kazakhistan were availed by ISRO;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether any MOU was signed after the meeting of the Indo-Kazakh Joint Commission on 23rd July, 1993, if so, the details thereof; and

@Previously Unstarred Question 1871, transferred from 10th August, 1993.

(c) whether Russia appreciated India's stand on Nuclear Non-proliferation, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, Government is aware of the launch facilities available at Baikanour, Kazakhistan. However, Kazakhistan does not have a launch vehicle. Only Russian launch vehicles are launched from Baikanour. India has used and will continue to use Baikanour facilities whenever it is advantageous as in the case of IRS Satellites. The INSAT-2A and INSAT-2B launch contracts were finalised on the basis of various commercial and technical factors in 1987-88, including the nearness of the launch pad to equator which enhances the useful life of the Satellite.

The MOU signed at the conclusion of the Indo-Kazakh Joint Commission on 23rd July, 1993 does not cover Space. Co-operation in the field of Space is not a part of the Joint Commission framework.

(c) The Russian Government is fully cognisant of India's principled position on Nuclear Non-Proliferation matters.

सुदूर संवेदन केन्द्र, लखनऊ के निदेशक का निलम्बन

3312. **श्री आनन्द प्रकाश गौतम :**
श्री मोहम्मद अफजल उर्फ सीम अफजल :

क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने सुदूर संवेदन केन्द्र, लखनऊ, उत्तर प्रदेश के निदेशक को वित्तीय और विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमन अधिनियम के नियमों के उल्लंघन जैसे कई गंभीर प्रशासनिक आरोपों के आधार पर 14 फरवरी, 1991 को निलम्बित कर दिया था और उन्हें मामले की जांच-पड़ताल करने के बाद आरोप-पत्र दिया गया था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्योरा क्या है ;

(ग) क्या उक्त गंभीर आरोपों के बावजूद उन्हें उसी पद पर हाल में 1993 में राज्य सरकार द्वारा पुनः बहाल कर दिया गया है ;

(घ) क्या निदेशक को दोष मुक्त कर दिया गया है ;

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो किन परिस्थितियों में सरकार को उक्त निदेशक को उसी पद पर पुनः बहाल करने के लिए बाध्य होना पड़ा था अथवा इसके क्या कारण थे ; और

(च) क्या इससे राज्य सरकार की छवि धूमिल नहीं हुई है ?

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री भुवनेश चतुर्वेदी) : (क) से (च) इस संबंध में उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार से सही जानकारी एकत्र की जा रही है तथा इसे राज्य सभा के पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा ।

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Memorandum of understanding (1993-94) between Government of India and Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited, Hindustan Insecticides Limited, Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited, Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited and National Fertilizers Limited.

II. Notification of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals).

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : Sir, I lay on the Table—

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers :—

(i) Memorandum of understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers—Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) and Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4326/93]

(ii) Memorandum of understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers—Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) and the Hindustan Insecticides Limited for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4329/93]

(iii) Memorandum of understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers—Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals) and Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4328/93]

(iv) Memorandum of understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers—Department of Fertilizers) and the Rashtriva Chemicals and Fertilizers Limited for the year 1993-94.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 4327/93]